India Library Federation

Legislative Committee Minutes

June 7, 2016 at 2 p.m.

Attendance: Kelly Ehinger, Carolyn Elliott, Jos Holman, Melody Gault (phone), Kristi Howe (phone), MacKenzie Ledley, Lisa Lintner (guest), Matthew Long, Beverly Martin, Lucinda Nord, Dr. Nazareth Pantaloni (phone), Nick Schenkel, Edra Waterman (phone), and Bill Wiebenga

Absent: Tisa Davis, Michael McCullough, Larry Oathout, Leslie Sutherlin, Jake Speer (phone), Terry Rheinheimer (phone),

Welcome: The group was welcomed and the meeting was called to order. There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made to accept the minutes of February 2 and May 10, 2016 as presented by Bill Wiebenga and seconded by Nick Schenkel. Motion passed.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence received by the co-chairs.

The Committee discussed the resignation of Larry Oathout. Melody Gault reported that she would like to continue to serve on the committee even with her change in job responsibilities. The chair will address finding a replacement for Larry. There is no reason for Melody to resign.

Legislative Advocates’ Report: Matt Long gave the legislative update: Matt noted that there will be 18 new legislators in next year’s General Assembly. He and Carolyn will spend the summer trying to meet them.

Summer Study Committees: Carolyn and Matt noted that an email alert had been sent to Legislative Committee members regarding the establishment of Summer Study Committees by the Legislative Council with an attached list of all topics assigned to study committees.

Included under the Interim Study Committee on Government is a charge to study language from SEA 321 that was put in by Rep. Tim Harman this past session. The committee will study the following:

The procedures (if any) by which a political subdivision in a county may: (1) transfer the political subdivision’s funds to another political subdivision located in the same county; and (2) transfer additional money from the political subdivision’s other funds into the political subdivision’s: (A) rainy day fund under IC 36-1-8-5.1, or (B) general operating fund.

Representative Harman (R-Bremen) will be hosting a meeting at the Plymouth Library on June 9, 2016 at 7pm to discuss his proposal to give local governments more flexibility in the use of current funding sources.
Jane Hall and Susie Reinholt plan to attend. MacKenzie Ledley will also try to attend. They will report back to Carolyn and Matt and to the members this committee on what they observe and learn.

**Legislative Committee Subcommittees:**

Carolyn emphasized how important it was for the Legislative Committee to begin the work of the two subcommittees it has been discussing.

LIT – Subcommittee will study the impact of legislation that has made changes in the distribution of local income taxes. Group needs to discuss and explore what is working and what isn’t. Using study from the State Library members can determine how many public libraries rely heavily on income taxes to fund their budget. There are at least 10 that are at 50% or higher. Suggested names of possible members from outside the Legislative Committee included: Mike Reuter and John Brock, CFO at Lake County and possibly the CFO at Indy Public Library.

IN Code - Revision of Indiana Code pertaining to Libraries – Subcommittee members need to review code and determine ways to add home rule for libraries.

2017 Budget – Statistics need to be gathered on how well INSPIRE products are being used and by whom.

**Discussion:** Fall Forum – The date for the Fall Legislative Forum was set for October 5, 2016 from 9-3 p.m. at Fort Benjamin Harrison State Park in Indianapolis. The program for the day was discussed including asking Courtney Schaafsma from the DLGF and possibly Luke Kenley to speak on the Budget or someone from LSA to explain their role in writing legislation. Carolyn and Matt will lead a discussion on messaging and networking with legislators.

**ISL Report/Announcements:** None

**ILF Executive Office Report/Announcements:** Lucinda Nord will be joining ILF as the new Executive Director beginning the week of June 20th. Lucinda is a registered lobbyist and political advocate in her present position at the IN Association of United Ways. She looks forward to working with the Legislative Committee and being involved in its work on behalf of Indiana libraries.

Beverly Martin expressed her appreciation for the warm reception she had been given by the Committee over the past six months. She wished everyone the best in their future endeavors. The committee members also thanked Bev for her help.

**Network Coordinator’s Report:** Nick Schenkel thanked the staff at ILF for their help with distributing the Legislative Reports during the 2016 session. He commented that it was critical that the network representative reach out to new directors in their areas. He noted that the committee planned to review the work of the Legislative Network this summer.

**Federal Network Coordinator’s Report:** None

**Other Business:** The award for Legislator of the Year would stay as a part of the Awards and Honors Program at ILF Annual Conference.
Next meeting:

Next meeting will be August 2 at 10 a.m. at the ILF Office. There will be no July meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by ?, second by ?. Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.